

Pro Tools AudioSuite



User Manual

nexStage DSDeliver plug-in for Pro Tools™ AudioSuite

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Installation

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

System Requirements:	Pro Tools LE System, version 6.4 or higher Pro Tools TDM System, version 6.4 or higher
Operating System:	Windows: XP Service Pack 1 or higher Macintosh: Mac OS X, version 10.3 or higher

SOFTWARE INSTALLATION

Insert the DSDeliver CD-ROM into your optical disc drive...

For Windows, start 'D:\Setup.exe,' where D is your CD-ROM's drive letter. For Mac OS, double click on "DSDeliver.pkg." For either OS, run the installer, following the on-screen instructions...

After successful installation of the software in the Plug-ins directory, the DSDeliver Plug-in has to be activated via your included iLok Smart Key. See Appendix A for more information.

Using the DSDeliver Plug-in for AudioSuite

MAIN FEATURES

This Pro Tools DSDeliver Plug-in provides sample rate conversion from PCM to DSD in the Digidesign Pro Tools systems.

Main features of the DSDeliver Plug-in:

- Creation of DSDIFF (Direct Stream Digital Interchange File Format) files
- Conversion from LPCM to DSD
- Support of most used PCM sample rates 44.1, 48, 88.2, 96, 176.4 and 192 kHz
- Support of all PCM formats available in Pro Tools
- Embedded Compression Ratio Estimator to estimate DST Encoding gain

For more information about DSD and DSDIFF, visit:

<http://www.sonicstudio.com/support/kbase.html>

AUDIO INPUT

In principle, the DSDeliver Plug-in can convert all audio available on the timeline of your Pro Tools system. Some restrictions apply to this:

- No effects may be activated
- Only a 2, 5 or 6 channel program can be converted to a DSDIFF file

For the length of the DSDIFF file, the length of the longest audio channel will be taken. If applicable, other audio channels will be filled or padded with silence.

The standard channel order of Pro Tools should be used. The DSDeliver Plug-in will change this into the right DSDIFF channel order. See Table 1 for more information.

The audio files on the timeline should contain all audio for the album, without any edits.

Amount of Channels	Pro Tools Channel Order	DSDIFF Channel Order
2	Left, Right	(Stereo Left) SLFT, (Stereo Right) SRGT
5	L, Center, R, Ls, Rs	(Multichannel Left) MLFT, (Multichannel Right) MRGT, Center, LS, RS
6	L, Center, R, Ls, Rs, LFE	MLFT, MRGT, Center, LFE, LS, RS

Table 1 — Channel Order

After selecting the audio channels, start up the DSDeliver Plug-in via the Toolbar.

The DSDeliver Plug-in is available via AudioSuite > Other > DSDeliver.

Figure 1 below shows the Toolbar Menus and the dialog of the DSD Plug-in.



Figure 1 — Pro Tools Dialog with DSD Plug-in Dialog

In the dialog of the DSD Plug-in, the *Output Filename* can be entered via the *Browse* button. In a DSDIFF file, Edited Master options are available. The text entered in the *Edited Master ID*, *Artist* and *Title* fields will be placed in the header of the file and can be read out by DSD workstations and authoring tools. The Edited Master ID should be a unique ID, for example: CompanyName_ProjectName_Date_Time.

COMPRESSION RATIO ESTIMATOR

Selecting the checkbox will enable the Compression Ratio Estimator. This will give a log file as a result. This logfile will be placed in the same directory as the DSDIFF file. In the log file, the estimated file size after encoding is shown. If you add the estimated size for the stereo and multichannel files, they should not exceed a maximum size of 4,600,000,000 bytes, as anything larger will not fit on an SACD disc. In case it exceeds that size, a track can be removed or the level can be lowered to bring the total size down to within a disc's storage requirements.

DSDIFF OUTPUT

To convert your audio on the timeline into a DSDIFF file, press the Process button. During that process, a progress bar will show the amount of completion. When finished, the progress bar will close and the main dialog of Pro Tools will be shown. The DSDIFF file is now available, in the directory you specified, for further processing.

This DSDIFF file cannot be opened by a Pro Tools system. Listening to the DSD file is possible via DSD software. For more information please contact us at <sales@sonicstudio.com>.

MORE INFORMATION

In case of problems, error messages or questions please send an e-mail to:

nexStage@sonicstudio.com

and attach a screen dump of the error message, if possible, and detailed description of your problem including, OS version, Pro Tools version, amount of RAM and installed hardware.

In addition to this application, various other interesting technologies are available...More information about the Super Audio CD format, the DSDIFF specification, DSD signal processing and SACD Authoring can be found at:

<http://www.sonicstudio.com>

If you are interested in our activities or in any of our product lines, please do not hesitate to contact us at:

sales@sonicstudio.com

or visit us at:

<http://www.sonicstudio.com>

Appendix A:

Activating the DSDeliver Plug-in

In general, there are two ways to activate the Plug-in:

1) *Using the iLok Smart Key —*

If you have an account with iLock.com, log on with your username and password to the site:

<http://www.ilok.com>

A license will be waiting for you. Please follow normal procedure to install the license to your key. The iLok.com web site has a Quick Start Guide that walks you through their process.

2) *Via a License File or Challenge/Response —*

For either a license file or challenge/response, the first steps are the same:

- a) Start up the Plug-in...a Buy/Quit screen will appear
- b) On this screen, click on Buy..."Do you have an iLok smart key?" screen appears
- c) Unselect the box
- d) Click on Next...a "Internet Activation" screen appears
- e) Select Manual Activation
- f) Click on Next...a "Challenge/Response" screen appears

From here you have two choices:

- i) Preferred Method: By clicking on Save Challenge, a license file will be created. Please send this file, by e-mail:

nexStage@sonicstudio.com

- ii) Alternate Method: Copy the words under Challenge into an e-mail and send this information to:

nexStage@sonicstudio.com

Or, you may print a screenshot and fax it to 775-330-8923, attention Support. Note that this alternate method will require a longer time period to process.

In either case, please close the application. We will send an e-mail or fax back with a series of short words or, in case of a Challenge File, a Response File will be send back via e-mail.

- g) Start up the Plug-in and follow the same procedure as above up to step f, the "Challenge/Response" dialog.
- h) Click on Read Response. In case of a Response file or hard copy, type in the series of short words from the fax or e-mail you received from Sonic Studio support. The exact series of short words should be visible in the Response dialog.
- i) Click on the Next button...a "Thank You" screen appears
- j) Click on Finish to close the Authentication process. You can start running the Plug-in now.